



## Allergy and Environmental Health Association

(Ottawa Branch)

Box 11428, Station H, Nepean, Ontario, Canada. K2H 7V1  
Phone (613) 837-7173 or 224-0801

Please note our new address:  
P.O. Box 33023, Nepean, Ontario K2C 3Y9

January 25, 1993

Supported by:

The Trillium Foundation

Patrons:

The Hon. Pauline  
McGibbon  
former Lieutenant  
Governor of Ontario

Dr. William Rae  
First World Chair  
Environmental Medicine  
University of Surrey

Dawn Walker  
Chief  
Child and Family Health Unit  
Health Promotion Directorate  
National Health and Welfare  
Jeanne Mance Building  
Tunney's Pasture  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1B4

Dear Ms. Walker:

Dr. Edward Ellis, Associate Medical Officer of Health with the Ottawa-Carleton Health Department, has suggested that our Association contact you.

Enclosed please find a copy of our membership brochure, as well as a request for funding for workshops to raise awareness with respect to the needs of the environmentally sensitive population.

Any help you can give us with respect to this workshop project, would be most appreciated. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 825-8388, or Leslirae Rotor at 830-7968.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Stutt  
Secretary

Copy to: Dr. Edward Ellis  
Leslirae Rotor

bcc: *Chris Brown*

Registered Charity

# Allergy and Environmental Health Association (Ottawa Branch)

Box 33023  
Nepean, Ontario K2C 3Y9

Telephone: 825-8388, 224-0801

1. Members who are Ottawa residents:  
Other members:  
  
Total members: 200
2. Grant amount requested: \$4,520.00

Funding is requested under the category of

(2) Community Support Services

## **Description:**

### **"Environmental Sensitivities Awareness Project"**

#### **Who will the project serve?**

The core of the project is targeted at members of the Allergy and Environmental Health Association. This will involve a series of workshops on various topics, including available health care, lifestyle and diet changes, communicating with others about special needs, employment, and accessible environments.

Material from the workshops will be summarized and distributed as supplements to our local newsletter. These summaries will also be made available, free of charge, to new members of the association, and to others for a nominal fee.

Through volunteer assistance, a thirty second public service announcement (PSA) will also be produced and made available for broadcast by local television stations during Allergy Week, Environment Week, National Access Awareness Week, and at other

*Who will the project serve? cont.*

times broadcasters may feel are appropriate. A series of public service announcement scripts will also be prepared and distributed to radio stations. Local daily and community newspapers will be provided with small advertisements and announcements they traditionally run on a public service basis.

The public awareness component of the project will address the issue in a positive frame with the intention of improving people's willingness to co-operate in finding solutions to individual needs resulting from environmental sensitivities. It will indirectly serve our members and the several thousand other persons with sensitivities in Ottawa and in the Ottawa area.

*What needs will the project meet?*

Most of the health concerns of the environmentally sensitive involve environmental adjustments necessary to avoid substances to which the individual is sensitive. These require informed decisions on the part of the person affected, and co-operation from associates and members of the community at large.

This awareness project will provide information helpful to the successful management of environmental sensitivities to persons with environmental sensitivities, their families, and to community, health and social service agencies, schools, business, and the public at large. Most situations have been dealt with successfully by one or another of our members and we wish to bring an awareness of these methods to those newly diagnosed. We also find that when agencies are aware that these problems can be successfully managed they are much more likely to co-operate in finding individual solutions.

*Dates and Places*

Spring 1993: recruiting workshop leaders, research and preparation of materials for workshops, publicity materials (including television public service announcement, print and radio materials), mailing lists, registration, advance publicity, beginning of public service announcement publication and broadcasting.

Summer 1993: Workshop scheduling (for fall 1993), preparation of materials for mailing to other community groups, social service agencies, etc.

Fall 1993: Series of five workshops on

- 1) health care
- 2) lifestyle changes
- 3) accessible environments
- 4) communicating with others
- 5) employment
- 6) social services

Distribution of materials to community groups and social service agencies.

Fall/Winter  
1993-94:

Distribution of workshop materials to members and to secondary distribution points (such as doctors' offices, etc.)

*Why a Grant from National Health and Welfare?*

Attitudes in officialdom have changed drastically within the past few years. As a result, we have been invited to take part in many awareness and planning programs which we simply do not have the resources to take part in. Our organization is suffering from a welcome stress: we are receiving more invitations to express our needs than we are able to respond to. We also have an increasing membership, with many new members who need information about what they do to cope.

*Why a Grant from National Health and Welfare? cont.*

We hope that the National Health and Welfare grant will help us with both challenges, helping us both to bring existing information to our members, and to improve awareness in the community they must deal with. Where it is impossible for us to participate in all the various processes various groups are inviting us to take part in, we do have enough volunteers to bring a simplified expression of our concerns to others, with a little help from our friends in the media, in the community (and National Health and Welfare!).

The improved recognition of our illness in other authorities provides a much improved environment in which to carry out awareness efforts.

3. How many people will this involve and for what fee:

1)	Workshop participants	
	Ottawa residents	40
	others	20

2)	Spectators (TV audiences)	
	Ottawa residents	≥100,000
	others	≥100,000

3)	Clients	
	Ottawa residents	≥139
	others	≥110

(The project will benefit the several thousand persons intermittently or permanently disabled by environmental sensitivities in Ottawa and the Ottawa area through its public education element.)

4)	Volunteers	
	Ottawa residents	24 (approx.)
	others	6 (approx.)

4. *A brief history of AEHA*

The Allergy and Environmental Health Association (AEHA) is a charitable organization which helps people who suffer from sensitivities to inhalants, chemicals, and other common substances in the air, food and water. AEHA is a voluntary organization with about 900 members nationally, with chapters in several Ontario cities and in other provinces. It was first founded under the name "Human Ecology Foundation" in 1969.

The objectives of the association are to act as a mutual aid and self-help group for its members; to bring about a greater public awareness of environmental sensitivities and the role of environmental pollution as a cause of illness; to increase the awareness of government and public officials; to advocate medical research and to solicit from governments and institutions changes in practices and conditions known to aggravate the illness.

Over the past few years we have achieved the support of the federal and Ontario governments. The new Ottawa City Hall is to be the first public building in Canada where an attempt is being made to provide accessibility to persons with this disability. We have achieved the support of many social service and health agencies, including several federal departments and the Ontario ministries of Community and Social Services, Health and Education. For instance, the Ontario Ministry of Education now advocates dealing with children who have learning or behavioral problems as a result of sensitivities.

Other Board members familiar with this project include:

Leslirae Rotor 830-7968  
343 Roxdale Avenue  
Orleans, Ontario K1E 1T9

Elizabeth Stutt 825-8388  
196 Sherway Drive  
Nepean, Ontario K2J 2G6

*Project elements and 5) Expenses:*

Video Public Service Announcement (PSA)	
- videotape	200.00
- camera rental	600.00
- dubbing	300.00
- off-line editing (donated)	0.00
- edit facilities	600.00
Workshops	
- honoraria	1,200.00
- materials	250.00
- facilities	150.00
Publicity (networking, Radio and Newspaper PSAs)	
- artwork	300.00
- duplicating	600.00
- distribution (postage)	800.00
Supplements	
- artwork	300.00
- printing	900.00
- distribution (postage)	320.00
- distribution (delivery)	100.00
Total	6,620.00

*Revenues*

AEHA contribution	1,000.00
Registration fees	600.00
Corporate Sponsorships (projected)	500.00
Total	2,100.00
Grant requested	4,520.00

A financial statement can be provided if necessary.

Jim McCulloch (726-1136)  
Acting President, Ottawa Branch  
2249 Carling Avenue, Suite 314  
Ottawa, Ontario K2B 7E9